

## **John Robert Troutbeck Barclay**

John was born in Bonn, Germany. He was educated at Eton and made his First Class debut for Sussex at the age of 16 in 1970.

He was an opening bat who never got quite as many runs as he should have, though having an excellent technique and eye. He also bowled off-spin.

In his career he scored 10000 runs at an average of 25 with 9 centuries. With his off spin he took over 300 wickets at an average of 30 with 6 for 61 his best return. He also took 214 catches.

He succeeded Arnold Long as the County Captain in 1981 and led the County to second place in the Championship. He was rated one of the best captains and was tipped as a future Test captain but never quite made it. John (nicknamed 'Trout') retired in 1986.



Since retirement he has been a manager or assistant manager on many England teams abroad – Under 19's to Sri Lanka; England 'A' to India and Bangladesh; England to South Africa with Ray Illingworth; the World Cup in India and Pakistan and tour manager to Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

John is Chairman of the MCC Cricket Committee and for five years chaired the ECB Cricket Coaches Association and the Sussex Cricket Board and was President of the ESCA. But the majority of his time has been spent at Arundel where he has been Director of Cricket and Coaching for the Arundel Castle Cricket Foundation. Here he has been able to give young people from all parts of the country and from different backgrounds the chance to broaden their education and their cricketing skills. To date over 250,000 have benefited from this scheme.

In May 2009 Derek Underwood announced that he had nominated John to be the next MCC President. Paying tribute to his successor, a man whom he first played against for Kent against Sussex in 1973 (dismissing him twice in the match, for a pair!), Derek Underwood said:

*"He has the same boyish love and enthusiasm for the game now as he did when he made his first-class debut aged 16. It gives me great pleasure to nominate John Barclay as President of MCC for 2009/2010."*

He started his year in office on 1 October 2009.

John has written two books :- The Appeal of the Championship (2002) and Life Beyond the Airing Cupboard (2008). The latter was named as the MCC and Cricket Society Book of the Year for 2009.